

REMARKS


The Official Action mailed October 19, 2005, has been received and its contents carefully noted. This response is filed within three months of the mailing date of the Official Action and therefore is believed to be timely without extension of time. Accordingly, the Applicants respectfully submit that this response is being timely filed.

The Applicants note with appreciation the consideration of the Information Disclosure Statement filed on August 15, 2001.

Claims 1-10 and 12-42 were pending in the present application prior to the above amendment. Paragraphs 4 and 5 of the Official Action reject claims 1-6, 10, 12, 14 and 15 as obvious based on the combination of Figures 2-6 and 12B of the present specification and U.S. Patent No. 6,175,395 to Yamazaki or U.S. Patent No. 5,994,765 to Mitra. In response, claims 1-6, 10, 12, 14 and 15 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Therefore, the rejections are moot. Also withdrawn claims 7-9, 13 and 16-29 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. The Applicants note with appreciation the allowance of claims 30-42 (page 9, Paper No. 101505). Accordingly, claims 30-42 are now pending in the present application, of which claims 30 and 36 are independent, and all of which are allowed.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable to place this application in better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



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